

Attorney Docket No. P66531US1  
Application No.: 10/014,446

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (new). A compressible polyurethane layer having outer and inner surfaces on or for rotation-symmetrical bodies, characterized in that said polyurethane layer contains expanded thermoplastic hollow spheres and the inner surface of the polyurethane layer is intended for direct contact with a roller.

Claim 16 (new). The polyurethane layer according to claim 15, characterized in that said hollow spheres consist of an acrylate/vinylidene fluoride copolymer.

Claim 17 (new). The polyurethane layer according to claim 15, characterized by having a thin layer of polyurethane towards the outer surface which contains non-expanded hollow spheres or no hollow spheres.

Claim 18 (new). The polyurethane layer according to claim 15, characterized in that said expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 20 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 19 (new). The polyurethane layer according to claim 15, characterized in that said expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 30 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 20 (new). The polymer according to claim 17, characterized in that said non-expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 6 to 16  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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Claim 21 (new). The polymer according to claim 17, characterized in that said non-expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 6 to 9  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 22 (new). The polyurethane layer according to claim 15, characterized in that the inner surface of the polyurethane layer is in contact with a carrier made of metal or plastic.

Claim 23 (new). A method for the preparation of a compressible polyurethane layer having outer and inner surfaces on or for rotation-symmetrical bodies, characterized in that said polyurethane layer contains expanded thermoplastic hollow spheres and the inner surface of the polyurethane layer is intended for direct contact with a roller, the method comprising

- applying, by rotational casting to a roller-shaped carrier, a freshly prepared mixture of diisocyanate component and polyol or polyamine component, one or both of the two components containing said expanded thermoplastic hollow spheres and, optionally, non-expanded, expandable thermoplastic hollow spheres, followed by, optionally
- withdrawing the polyurethane layer from the carrier and, optionally cutting it open.

Claim 24 (new). A rubber blanket for offset printing comprising a compressible polyurethane inner layer having an inner surfaces, characterized in that said polyurethane inner layer contains expanded thermoplastic hollow spheres and the inner surface of the polyurethane layer is intended for direct contact with a roller.

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Claim 25 (new). The rubber blanket according to claim 24, characterized in that said hollow spheres consist of an acrylate/vinylidene fluoride copolymer.

Claim 26 (new). The rubber blanket according to claim 24 having an inner surface and an outer surface, characterized by having a thin layer of polyurethane towards the outer surface which contains non-expanded hollow spheres or no hollow spheres.

Claim 27 (new). The rubber blanket according to claim 24, characterized in that said expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 20 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 28 (new). The rubber blanket according to claim 24, characterized in that said expanded thermoplastic hollow spheres have diameters of from 30 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 29 (new). The polymer according to claim 27, characterized in that said non-expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 6 to 16  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 30 (new). The polymer according to claim 27, characterized in that said non-expanded hollow spheres have diameters of from 6 to 9  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 31 (new). The rubber blanket according to claim 24, characterized in that the inner surface of the polyurethane inner layer is in contact with a carrier made of metal or plastic.